

PROMOTING INTEROPERABILITY PROGRAMS ELECTRONIC CLINICAL QUALITY MEASURES: REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR 2020

Electronic clinical quality measures, or eQMs, are tools that help measure and track the quality of health care services provided by eligible professionals (EPs), eligible hospitals, and critical access hospitals (CAHs) within our health care system. These measures use data associated with health care providers' ability to deliver high-quality care or relate to long-term goals for quality health care.

eQMs measure many aspects of patient care including:

- ▶ Clinical processes and effectiveness
- ▶ Patient safety
- ▶ Efficient use of health care resources
- ▶ Care coordination
- ▶ Patient and family engagement
- ▶ Population and public health

eQMs help ensure that our health care system is delivering effective, safe, efficient, patient-centered, equitable, and timely care.

To participate in the Promoting Interoperability Programs and receive an incentive payment, health care providers are required to submit eQm data from certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT).

The tables below outline the eQm reporting requirements for Medicare hospitals and Medicaid EPs and hospitals in 2020. The submission period for Medicare hospitals will be the two months following the end of the 2020 calendar year, ending on **February 28, 2021**.

Promoting Interoperability Programs

Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program eCQM Reporting Requirements			
Reporting Year		2020	
Reporting Method		Hospitals (First-time)	Hospitals (Returning)
# of eQMs	Attestation	8	8
	Electronically	4	4
Reporting Period	Attestation	Full calendar year (consisting of four quarterly data reporting periods)	Full calendar year (consisting of four quarterly data reporting periods)
	Electronically	Any continuous 90 days	Any continuous 90 days
Submission Deadline		February 28, 2021	February 28, 2021

Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program eCQM Reporting Requirements				
Reporting Year		2020		2020
Reporting Method		EPs (First-time)	EPs (Returning)	Hospitals
# of eQMs	Attestation	6	6	8
	Electronically	6	6	4
Reporting Period	Attestation	Any continuous 90 days	Any continuous 90 days	Full calendar year (consisting of four quarterly data reporting periods)
	Electronically	Any continuous 90 days	Any continuous 90 days	Any continuous 90 days

*Attestation is only an option available for Medicaid eligible hospitals and CAHs in specific circumstances when electronic reporting is not feasible under the Promoting Interoperability Programs. Medicaid EPs and hospitals should check with their state for electronic submission requirements.

eCQM Reporting Form and Manner for Promoting Interoperability Programs in CY 2020

This requires the following:

- ▶ Use of QRDA Category I for hospital eCQM electronic submissions to CMS
- ▶ 2015 Edition CEHRT

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- ▶ For the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program, if electronic reporting is not possible, eligible hospitals and CAHs must report on 8 eCQMs for four self-selected calendar quarters in 2020.
- ▶ For the Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program, EPs must report on 6 eCQMs relevant to their scope of practice and at least one outcome. If no outcome measure is relevant to an EP's scope of practice, he or she must report on at least one high-priority measure. If no outcome or high priority measures are relevant, they may report on any six relevant measures.
- ▶ Under the Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program, states have the flexibility to determine the method of reporting CQMs (attestation or electronic reporting) and submission period, subject to prior approval by CMS. States also have the flexibility to determine the specifications that may be used to electronically report eCQMs under the Promoting Interoperability Program.
- ▶ The eCQM requirement fulfillment for the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program also satisfies the eCQM reporting requirement for the Hospital IQR Program.
- ▶ QRDA file specifications, Schematrons, sample files, and other helpful materials are located on the eCQI Resource Center website at <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/grda>.
- ▶ For more information, visit the [Promoting Interoperability Programs website](#).